

TECHNIQUES FOR MAINTAINING OPERATION OF A DATA STORAGE  
SYSTEM DURING A FAILURE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A data storage system has a first storage processor, a second storage processor, and a communications subsystem. The communications subsystem has (i) an interfacing portion interconnected between the first storage processor and the second storage processor, (ii) a clock circuit coupled to the interfacing portion, and (iii) a  
10 controller coupled to the interfacing portion and the clock circuit. The controller is configured to enable operation of the interfacing portion to provide communications between the first and second storage processors, sense a failure within the clock circuit, and reset the interfacing portion in response to the sensed failure to enable one of the first and second storage processors to continue operation. Such resetting of the  
15 interfacing portion prevents the remaining storage processor from locking up, thus freeing that storage processor so that it is capable of continuing to operate even after the failure.